

(From Official Coast Guard Internal Message Traffic)

August 1st

R 281558Z

FROM: VTS PUGET SOUND, SEATTLE, WA

TO: COMMANDER, COAST GUARD GROUP SEATTLE, SEATTLE WA

INFO: CCGD THIRTEEN SEATTLE WA

COGARD MSO PUGET SOUND WA

COGARD STA BELLINGHAM WA

UNCLASSIFIED //N16000//

SUBJECT: VTS PUGET SOUND, OPERATION NORTHERN MAKE WAY

A. VTS PUGET SOUND, OPERATION NORTHERN MAKE WAY GUIDE (NOTAL)

1.SITUATION:

2. AS THE NUMBERS OF RECREATIONAL BOATERS OPERATING IN PUGET SOUND INCREASE, THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASING NUMBER OF RECREATIONAL VESSEL IMPEDING AND OPERATING UNSAFELY AROUND COMMERCIAL VESSELS. IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND PROVIDE SAFE PASSAGE FOR COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL VESSELS, VTS PUGET SOUND HAS ENGAGED CG AUXILIARY RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN THIS ON-THE-WATER EFFORT.

3. VTS PUGET SOUND ANTICIPATES THIS TO BE THE FIRST OF MANY OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO HAVE TARGETED ON-THE-WATER PRESENCE TO ASSIST IN EDUCATION AND THE DETECTION OF VIOLATIONS OF VTS REGULATIONS. BASED ON HISTORICAL DATA, VTS WILL TARGET HIGH RISK AREAS (E.G TURN POINT, EDMONDS TO WEST POINT) AND HIGH RISK TIMES (E.G. HOLIDAY WEEKENDS AND ALL CITIZEN FISHERIES OPENINGS) TO EXERCISE OPERATION NORTHERN MAKE WAY.

4. ACTION.

A. BEGINNING 01 SEPT 01 - 03 SEPT 01 COAST GUARD AUXILIARY VESSELS WILL AGGRESSIVELY PATROL IN THE VICINITY OF TURN PT, IN HARO STRAIT/BOUNDARY PASS. THE AUXILIARY WILL CONTINUE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND CLEAR THE CHANNEL WHEN NECESSARY. PATROLS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN HIGH RISK AREAS AND DURING HIGH RISK TIMES.

B. IAW REF A:

(1) BEFORE PATROLLING, AUXILIARIST MUST OBTAIN THE REQUIRED "NORTHERN MAKE WAY GUIDE" AND IN BRIEF FROM VTS PUGET SOUND.

(2) PRIOR TO PATROL, WORK WITH VTS PUGET SOUND TO TARGET PATROL TIMES TO COINCIDE WITH TIMES OF COMMERCIAL VESSEL TRANSITS.

(3) NOTIFY VICTORIA TRAFFIC on VHF-FM CH 11 OF ARRIVAL ON SCENE

(4) DIRLAUTH WITH COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC AUTHORIZED

(5) TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO EDUCATE BOATERS PRIOR TO CPA OF TRANSITING VESSELS WHEN POTENTIAL CONFLICTS ARISE.

(6) REPORT INCIDENTS OF VESSELS WHICH FAIL TO GIVE WAY TO VTS PUGET SOUND VIA REPORT OF FAILURE TO GIVE WAY FORM, PROVIDED IN REF (A).

(7) FORWARD LESSONS LEARNED REPORT TO VTS UPON COMPLETION OF PATROL.

5. COORDINATING INFORMATION: LT P. J. ST. JOHN WILL WORK WITH RESPONSIBLE PILOT ASSOCIATION, MAREX, RMIC VANCOUVER TO TARGET PATROL TIMES.

6. POC: LT P. J. ST. JOHN, (206) 217 6025. VTS WATCH SUPERVISOR
(206) 217 6152